

## THE EIGHTH HOUR QUESTION.

Father Huntington's Lecture Before the Central Labor Union.

## THE BASIS OF HIS ARGUMENT.

A Reduction in the Hours of Toil Would Increase the Demand for Labor and Make Life More Pleasant.

Father Huntington's lecture, The Rev. Father James O. S. Huntington, a member of the Order of the Holy Cross of New York city, addressed the members of the Central Labor union last evening on the eighth hour question.

"We are told," began the speaker, "that we are suffering from over-production. It takes very little thought for us to see that the meaning of the word over-production is wrong. It means that the people have no means of disposing of the goods produced. The goods are piled up in the hands of the over-producer. What is necessary in order to create industry all over the country is that people who really need goods should be able to find an equivalent for them. There would be a far better distribution of products if all were able to work but eight hours. What we want is a larger home market, a larger home consumption. Then will the condition of living be better. We base the argument of the eighth hour argument upon the fact that there are too many working over eight hours. It is a mistake to think, however, that the cutting down of the hours of labor will prove the remedy desired. Where all workers are employed their wages will increase. The notion of the wage fund is common, but it is a gross mistake. Wages are not paid by capital, but by the goods produced. So many pairs of shoes have been made at a factory on a Saturday night. What is obtained from the sale of these shoes represents much more than the wages received. It represents a great profit to the factory owners, besides a payment of all expenses. The more goods are produced, the more there is to distribute among those creating them.

"Men who work ten or twelve hours a day do nothing but for food and sleep. I know this to be so, for I went out as a workman myself, and I went through the experience very thoroughly. I found that when I worked ten hours a day I cared for nothing but eating and sleeping. When I worked eight hours a day I had time for and wanted to do some things at evening. When men work ten or twelve hours a day they have no time for anything else but animal demands. Why is it that foreigners are willing to work longer hours than we? Simply because they have been so crushed down that they are content simply with having plenty of eating and sleeping. They experience no desire for education—don't know what it means.

"I say, therefore, that an eight-hour law will give a man more time for education, more time for culture and sleeping—will give an opportunity for something better than mere animal existence.

"Some men say that if an eight-hour law was in existence the extra time would be spent in drinking or something similar. Who says this? The capitalists—the very men who are making money by making men work ten or twelve hours a day. A single night for flowers, and another \$10.00 for some other part of a night's revelry.

"We have an argument drawn from history. Three hundred years ago, in England, the eight-hour rule was in vogue. If it was a success then, it is a success now. Why should it not be in this day? Place no dependence on the talk going on today against the eight-hour law.

"We are not going to secure the eight-hour law simply by legislation. Why do men work twelve and thirteen hours today? Is it because they are paid more for working longer hours? No, it is because they are paid less. Nonsense. You know it is nonsense, because your common sense tells you so. The assertion that the eight-hour law cannot exist in this country because it is over-populated is absurd. There are millions of acres here yet untouched. The trouble is that the land is in the hands of great landlords who are forcing high, tax-paying, expensive pleasure trips to Paris and other gay centers. Just as soon as a man gets better wages he has no more time for it. It is not one thing it is another—the rich land owner must be supported. This goes to show that something more than legislation is necessary. This something more is bringing about a change in the arrangement by which a man can secure the power to hold vast tracts of land, to control a sort of government, lease, or by government consent, and rent it out again at a big profit without working a foot of it himself.

"I don't believe that a man can hold property or be entitled to profit by property simply as a landlord. What a man makes or manufactures is his own. How can a man manufacture a thing? God is the only landlord, for He is the only one who has made land. The nation holds the title to the land. Every time a child is born the nation forfeits a part of the land.

"If you think that a certain class of men have been created with a special privilege, and no duties, then you should drop this struggle.

In closing the reverend gentleman said he hoped that all present would come to hear his lecture at Boyd's opera house tomorrow afternoon at 8 o'clock.

The speaker was given a vote of thanks by the union for his lecture.

## A Fremont Delegation.

A delegation consisting of Thomas Killean, county clerk; George Davy, recorder of deeds, and Mr. M. Welch, county supervisor of Fremont, are in the city to purchase furniture for the new Dodge county court house which is nearing completion. These gentlemen are here to see that the purchase is complete and to be the final in the state.

## Special prices on ladies' muslin underwear all this week—Culley's, 325 Broadway.

## THE PROUD SOUTHERN COLONEL.

He Realizes That He is Above the Vulgar Herd.

The colonel is one of the established institutions of this city, and has come to stay, says the Nashville American. We cannot all of us go to congress or be governor, but there is a vacant colonelcy to tempt the ambition of every aspiring youth in this free country. To be called "colonel" is to begin to wear a healing balm to many a heart sore and disappointed tussler with the vicissitudes of life. No man can feel that his life has been altogether a failure so long as he can live and be called "colonel." It breaks the fall of the defeated candidate and makes him feel that he is not altogether without honor if he is without office. Every time he is greeted with the familiar title the man who is slow to get up and to brag up and try again. It is in ten thousand ways a hope and a consolation, and we do not doubt that many a man who has reached fame and honor and usefulness to his country owes all his greatness to the title of "colonel" which his admiring friends have conferred upon him. As soon as a man begins to hear himself called "colonel" he realizes that he is in some sense above the vulgar herd. A great ambition begins to grow within his soul, and in nine cases out of ten he will improve the first opportunity to become a justice of the peace, then a state legislator, and if he be worthy of his colonelcy he may then go to congress. His hands may not be red with the blood of his fellows and he may have never seen the smoke or smell the powder or heard the roar of battle. But perhaps the thought that none but the slayer of his fellows would wear the proud title! Peace hath her colonels no less renowned than war.

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## COUNCIL BLUFFS.

## The Gambling House Case.

Tonight will witness the closing of the gambling houses, and it is stated that the closing will be permanent; at least this is the statement made by parties on both sides, and it is confidently promised that it will not be a repetition of the burlesque of a year ago, when an order was issued to close them and one house was raided while the others were given a quiet "tip" in advance. It is a bona fide deal, by which all the gamblers have agreed with the executive committee of the anti-gambling association to not only close up but to remove their furniture and gambling appliances. They had their choice of doing this of their own accord and having everything destroyed. They have faithfully promised to carry out their part of the agreement, and there is little danger that they will break faith. It was intended to close them up Monday morning, just before the advent of the new administration, but the gamblers professed a willingness to close tonight, and that is how the time was finally fixed. The new administration will take possession without a gambling house in the city, so far as is known. The committee is determined to see that no one who may know or hereafter learn of the existence of such a place within the city limits to notify the police, and if they do not do so, they will see that the place is closed. According to present arrangements Mayor Johnson's administration will, with the fall of the gambling houses, but the circumstances are nearly such that he will point with pride to the fact in his farewell message.

Dan Carling, proprietor of the Mint, not only announces his willingness to close, but states that he is a reformer from "way back" and gives out that that since gambling houses have been taken off the free list the saloons must go too. His theory is that the move to close the gambling houses originated and was fostered by saloon men in other portions of the city, who felt that the gambling houses drew a large portion of the right of patronage from the saloons, and that for this reason they wanted the gambling houses closed. He proposes to see that every saloon in the city is closed tightly at both ends, and will select liquor brought over from Omaha. In this way he says he will shut up all the saloons. The other saloon keepers insist that this is simply bluffing, and will be anxious to continue in the saloon business as any of the rest of them.

The prohibition will not interfere in the saloon fight, but will confine their warfare to the gambling houses. They say they have secured what they want after and are perfectly satisfied. They will remain on the lookout for any poker rooms or other gambling places that may be run "on the quiet," and will close them down whenever information of the kind is brought to them. They have visited the high life resorts and all card rooms and notified the proprietors that all gambling must cease or the tables will be confiscated and destroyed. They are quite jubilant over the result of their labors, and announce that gambling will soon be a thing of the past.

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## The Real Estate Exchange.

The genial warmth of the real estate exchange contrasted so pleasantly with the borean blasts yesterday that an extra indoor fire was kindled in the crowd, and when the exchange opened at 9 o'clock a crowded house greeted President Judah. A great deal of good lively discussion was held on important subjects. The matter that attracted the most interest was the report made by the president that a large boiler manufactory now located in Adams city and employing 100 men had been offered for sale. The offer could be brought to this city; that the proprietors were dissatisfied with their present location, but no assurance was given of a count of security of water. The management of the concern was favorably impressed with Council Bluffs and was willing to come here, but the result was the removal of such a large plant.

"I can't say that the moneyed men present, and the proposition was made to organize a manufacturing association with a capital of \$100,000, the capital stock of which was to be divided into shares of \$100 each. The members of the association to become stockholders in every share of stock, and the assistance to take the form of stock in the various enterprises. After a good deal of discussion the following agreement was drawn up and approved:

"The undersigned agree to become stockholders to the extent of \$1,000 each to a corporation to encourage the location of manufacturing in Council Bluffs. The business of the said corporation to be managed by a board of directors of not less than three members, and not more than five, and to be elected by the members of the corporation. The board shall have power to make assessments upon the capital stock, but no assessment shall be made for more than 10 per cent of each member's stock and not more than the amount required for the location of manufacturing."

The agreement was signed by a large number of those present and it will be circulated among the members of the exchange.

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